

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 The method uses color to determine the wear of the  
screw and barrel of the molding machine. The method  
measures the color and/or color variation to determine  
the wear. A first material of a first color and a second  
material of a second color are fed into the machine to  
create a third material with a third color. The third  
10 material is either extruded to form a part or is injected  
into a mold to form a part. The color of the part is  
then measured with a measuring device, such as,  
spectrophotometer. The color will change as the screw  
and barrel wear. The color value would then be compared  
15 with previous color values to determine the amount of  
wear.

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